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20 February 1964

Chief, SAS

ATTN:

Chief, Alien Affairs Staff

**Proposed Amendment to Amendment of Section 245 of
Immigration and Nationality Act - Adjustment of Status
for Cuban Refugees.**

1. Under present law, in order for a native of a country contiguous to the United States or of an island adjacent to the U. S. to convert from refugee status to that of a permanent resident alien of the U. S., it is necessary for him to leave the country and apply for an immigrant visa at a U. S. Consular Post. The processing is both unwieldy and expensive.

2. Senator Hart of Michigan has introduced a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 to permit such natives of contiguous countries or adjacent islands to remain in the U. S. and change their status in the same manner as refugees from other areas. Attached is a copy of Pages 2809 and 2810 of the Congressional Record - Senate of 17 February 1964. These pages were forwarded to this Staff by the Legislative Counsel of the Office of General Counsel.

3. From an Agency standpoint, Senator Hart's bill would be a most welcome amendment. Both time and money could be saved in converting aliens of interest to permanent resident alien status. Since the alien would be dealing directly with the I&NS Office covering his residence, many items presently handled through correspondence could be taken care of at a face-to-face meeting. There would be no need for expensive trips to Montreal or Toronto to obtain an

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immigrant visa. [redacted]

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4. After reading the attachment, SAS may desire to request the Legislative Counsel of OGC to give lateral support to Senator Hart's amendment.

5. Copies of this memorandum and attachment are being forwarded to the Area Security Officers [redacted] and WH.

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Attachment.

cc: WH (w/attach.)

OGC/LC - [redacted]

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

Attachment